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### GERMANS EXPEND MUCH MONEY ON POLAND ROADS

Warsaw, Dec. 24.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—Something over a million and a half dollars have been expended by the Germans since their occupancy of Poland in reconstructing the unspeakably bad roads that crisscross the kingdom at more or less rare intervals, and which have been all but destroyed by artillery fire and by the transportation of big guns, ammunition and food supplies.

For those in charge of the reconstruction of connections between the armies and home, the task has grown almost insupportable. The Germans have now from the Russians. Prior to the fall of Warsaw there were approximately 1,946 kilometers (1,209 miles) of roads to be repaired, but when the Russians retreated to Forest Litovsk, and then abandoned that fortress, the mileage increased to 3,449 kilometers (2,143 miles), and the difficulties involved grew greater with each additional mile.

The Germans found, on their arrival, a few so-called "imperial roads" which were, for the most part, strips of sand. From the inhabitants—or such of them as remained—they learned that taxes for the upkeep of the thoroughfares had been collected over and over, and never spent for the purpose intended. A second class of roads, the so-called government streets, were all but impassable, and the third variety consisted of roads that not only were impassable, but impossible. All three sorts were torn by shells, cut by trenches, and rutted by both Russian and German wagons bound for the front.

The Germans in charge of road rebuilding claim that they never have had any word as to the ultimate intention of their government with respect to Poland,—that their work has gone on, irrespective of any intention to annex the ancient kingdom, that the work has been done purely as a sort of philanthropic measure, and that it will stand as a heritage for those who may in the future govern Poland.

That it has been thoroughly done, however, is attested to by the fact that between 30,000 and 35,000 laborers have been employed in the various sections of Poland. Most of them are Poles, thrown out of their ordinary occupations by a shortage of raw materials.

Throughout the length and breadth of Poland the sand stretches are being bolstered up with wood and stone, and 710,000 cubic meters (approximately 2,500,000 cubic feet) have been used thus far in making passable roads, even in districts where no military need for them exists.

For instance, a road 75 kilometers in length has been built to the south of Lodz, where there have been no armies for months, and where there is no immediate prospect of a need for good roads from a military standpoint. The work continues, and a contrast between the old and new order of things—easily obtainable in the course of a ride outside of Lodz—gives a glimpse of the constructive efforts of the Germans.

The Polish population in general has proven thankful for what has been accomplished—additionally so because thousands of its men and women have received employment in the reconstruction of the Polish roads, and have in this way been saved from the starvation that otherwise stared them in the face.

It is peculiar that the women, rather than the men, have done the most toward rehabilitating their country. The women, and grown children, have proved themselves industrious workers for the reconstruction of Poland, while the men with few exceptions have had to be driven, and have

### AT THE THEATRES

**At the Majestic.**  
Christmas day, Wm. Fox presents Wm. Farnum in "The Nigger," or, as the picture has been re-named, "The New Governor."

The most popular player on the stage or screen. That describes William Farnum, who, since his exclusive engagement by William Fox, has become a prime favorite with film fans all over the country and scored even greater personal triumphs than he did when on the stage.

The releases already made of the notable Farnum series include some of the greatest successes of the day. "The Nigger" has swept the country like a tornado. Overflow audiences everywhere have greeted the picture which was selected to inaugurate the second week (the most trying period) of the experiment, which turned the huge auditorium of the New York Hippodrome into a picture house. "The Nigger" played to 150,000 paid admissions in the week at the "Hip" thereby establishing a record that this screen play has kept right on repeating. "Samson," another enormous success, owes not a little of its immense popularity, strong though this modern drama of Bernstein's is in itself, to the magnetic personality and splendid dramatic genius of Mr. Farnum.

**At the Palace.**  
Mme. Petrova, the Metro star, who has been on tour in the successful play, "The Revolt," is taking advantage of her New York engagement by beginning work on another big Metro feature picture, "What Will People Say?" at the popular Plays and Players' Studio, in Fort Lee, N. J.

In order to fill her speaking stage engagement in New York and answer the call on her services at the Fort Lee studio, Mme. Petrova is having a rather lively time of it. She is obliged to give herself over entirely to her work, and forswear all thoughts of comfort and home life. Life for her, under these circumstances, is one continued race from the studio to the theatre, from the theatre home, and from home to the studio.

The single task of appearing at the studio, or in the stellar role of a theatrical engagement, is usually considered enough work for one person. But Mme. Petrova delights in being busy, and despite her arduous task of double duty, is usually the last person around the studio to tire.

Mme. Petrova will be seen in "My Madonna" at the Palace Saturday.

never overcome their suspicion of the Germans. This suspicion, it is assumed, is founded on generations of experience of Russian domination. The men, rather than work, offer bribes to the Germans, as they used to offer them to the Russians, and then appear utterly dumfounded when the bribes are not accepted, and they are confronted with the alternative of working or starving.

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## Majestic Theatre

TODAY

### "NEAL OF THE NAVY"

"The Valkyrie"

"Thanouser" drama in three parts

"Cupid Beats Father"

"Beauty" comedy

TO-MORROW

## CHRISTMAS DAY

Wm. Fox Presents

Edward Sheldon's great Drama, "The Nigger," which has been re-named

## "The New Governor"

WM. FARNUM

America's most popular young actor, in a mighty epic of modern American life. Grave, social, moral and political conditions handled in an unflinching manner.

Admission 5 and 10 cents

SUNDAY

"COULD A MAN DO MORE?"

"Centaur" feature in 3 parts, with CRANE WILBUR in the Title Role.

"ALL ABOARD"

Thanouser Comedy

MONDAY

WILLIAM FOX

presents

THEDA BARA

in

THE CLEMENCEAU CASE

by Alexandre Dumas

The famed "Vampire Woman" of the Theatre Antoine, Paris, in the most powerful of photoplays. A production magnificent. Directed and written by Herbert Brenon. "Drama that scorches like living flame."—New York Press.

TUESDAY

"Mutual Masterpicture Day"

"THE SEVENTH NOON"

Five-part nerve-racking Drama of action and suspense featuring Ernest Glendenning

